

News and Notes for March/April 2014

Learning Opportunities	
Developing Student Thinking, Communication and Numeracy in Mathematics	<p><u>Grades K-8</u> <u>May 9, 2014 Calgary</u></p> <p>About the session How can we teach our diverse K-8 learners to read, write and talk about mathematics effectively? Engaging students in communicating their thinking enables them to develop a deep understanding of mathematics. Student communication can also reveal possible misconceptions students may have in mathematics.</p> <p>This one-day institute will explore practical, research-based strategies which engage students in communicating their thinking in mathematics while at the same time, enable them to learn various mathematical concepts. Attendees will participate in a variety of engaging, hands-on activities that they can implement immediately in their classrooms to teach students the skills they need to problem solve, justify ideas and share mathematical thinking with others. www.carcpd.ab.ca</p>
Learning and Teaching in an Inquiry Stance	<p><u>Teachers and Educational Assistants of Grades 1 -3.</u></p> <p>About the session: Children have an innate sense of wonder and curiosity. This natural inquisitiveness is fostered when educators adopt an “inquiry stance”. When children are given opportunities to seek answers to questions that are interesting, important, and relevant to them, they address curriculum in natural and real-world ways, and develop and practice higher order thinking skills that lead to deep learning. Being in an inquiry stance as opposed to “doing inquiry” opens educators to ongoing questioning of their practice and reflection on learning. This session is for educators who are interested in moving beyond themes and inquiry units to negotiating learning with their students, and co-constructing a learning environment that is grounded in questioning, puzzlement and creative thinking for all. www.carcpd.ab.ca</p>
Project Based Learning 101 for 21st Century Learners (CARC)	<p>March 17-19 \$350.00</p> <p>This three day workshop engages participants in learning the principles for designing, assessing and managing standards-focused projects as well as using performance assessments to judge the relevant work generated by 21st Century Learners.</p>
CARC <u>Encouraging Creativity and Critical Thinking – Innovation with CTF and CTS</u>	<p>Interested in exploring how to most effectively encourage creative thinking and creativity in CTF and CTS courses? CTF and CTS courses provide wonderful opportunities to engage and nurture student creativity. This is a four part series that will explore what effective teaching practice in CTF and CTS might look like. In addition, the series will examine the main ideas of Inspiring Education and related education initiatives from a CTF and CTS perspective.</p> <p>Teachers, administration, and other education leaders are invited to attend one or all sessions. Sessions are designed around the key CTF processes and include:</p> <p><u>March 11: Create--How can I bring student creativity to life?</u> <u>April 28: Articulate--How can I build student capacity to effectively articulate learning?</u> <u>May 8: Appraise--How can I assess student learning?</u></p>
ATA English Language Arts Conference	<p>English Language Arts Council Conference May 2-3, 2014 Banff Centre Registration Deadline April 15, 2014 http://elacata.ca/elac-2014-conference</p>
Resources and Research	
Wellness Education and CBC	<p>I caught this program on CBC, Ideas today and thought it might be something that you’d be interested in listening to (download it and listen on the way to work). The program is called “Stuffed” and it explains the shift in North American eating habits over the past 30 years. There are two parts if you like the first, catch the second as well! http://www.cbc.ca/ideas/episodes/2013/12/09/stuffed-part-1/</p>
Catalogue and Resources	<p>We have the Spectrum Catalogue for 2014 – Literacy (k-9), Mathematics (k-8), and Science and Technology (k-8) Educational Materials . If you would like to see them at your next PLC date please let me know and we can have them available for you. If you are interested in looking at them on your own, email me and we can send them out in the van run.</p>
iGoogle Site	<p>A place where educators who are interested in learning more about Google tools for the classroom can come to learn, collaborate and have fun. http://goo.gl/eUSko</p>
Updates	
Provincial Updates Curriculum Redesign	<p>Did you know the province is examining Curriculum Redesign? Alberta Education is reviewing and revising our standards and guidelines for Curriculum, which includes programs of study, assessments, and learning and teaching resources, as well as processes for developing curriculum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will change? • How will curriculum change? • Curriculum Redesign Prototyping Overview (New)
Alberta Government Student Learning Assessment	<p>Timeline, development, and administration Update on administration and development of new Student Learning Assessments (SLAs) Winter Update (New) http://education.alberta.ca/media/8225512/sla_update_winter2014.pdf</p>
Literacy and Numeracy: Inspiring Education	<p>Literacy and numeracy are foundational to successful learning and living. They are life-long and active processes that begin at birth and develop throughout one’s lifetime. Literacy and numeracy enable individuals to reach their full potential, achieve a better quality of life, and contribute to their communities. To discover and make meaning of an increasingly complex and evolving world, students need the confidence and habits of mind to acquire, create, connect and communicate information in a variety of contexts, going beyond the basic skills of reading, writing and solving simple arithmetic problems. http://education.alberta.ca/teachers/program/literacy.aspx</p>